

JULY 2016



WESTERN WHITEWATER ASSOCIATION

RAPIDS

Proposed Fee for Hells Canyon National Recreation Area

The following is a copy of a press release we received from the Pacific Northwest Region of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Reprinted with their permission.

**Pacific Northwest Region
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest**
1550 Dewey Ave.
Baker City, OR 97814
www.fs.usda.gov/wallowa-whitman

Contact: Jake Lubera 541-426-5581 or Matt Burks 541-523-1208 June 20, 2016

Wallowa-Whitman National Forest proposes a new recreation fee for the Wild and Scenic portion of the Snake River – Open House Dates

JOSEPH, OR - Forest managers at the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest are interested in hearing your comments on a proposal for a new recreation fee associated with the Wild and Scenic portion of the Snake River. The Forest is proposing a special recreation permit fee of \$5.00 to \$10.00, depending on public feedback received. This proposed fee would be, per-person, per-trip and would be collected from all boaters and passengers. This fee would also include individuals using outfitter/guide services on the Wild and Scenic portion of the Snake River. The area subject to the proposed fee is the Snake River beginning at Hells Canyon Dam to Cache Creek Ranch (approximately 70 miles).

Employees of outfitters and guides would not be subject to the fee during working hours, nor would travel by private, noncommercial boat to any private land inholding; or any person who has right of access for hunting or fishing privileges under specific provisions of treaty or law. The proposed fee would be used to help provide a sustainable funding source for the Wild and Scenic Snake River. The \$5 to \$10 fee would be used to improve maintenance of developed facilities and historic sites used for recreation, expand interpretation, address health and safety concerns and provide extra river patrols.

“We recognize how important this river corridor is to both our local communities and visitors; however, we are seeing a decline in our ability to keep up with normal operations. With this proposed investment from those who use the river, we will be able to maintain the sites to the level and quality that people expect and invest in other needs such as education and safety,” said Jake Lubera, Deputy District Ranger, Wallowa Mountains Office.

All new fee proposals will be presented before the John Day-Snake River Resource Advisory Committee, a citizen’s advisory committee. Committee members represent a broad array of interest groups to help ensure that the Forest Service is proposing reasonable and publicly acceptable fee changes and addresses any concerns.

In 2004, Congress passed the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act which

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allows the Forest Service to keep 95 percent of fees collected at certain recreation sites and use these funds locally to operate and maintain and improve these sites. The new fee proposal will be posted in the Federal Register on June 21, 2016. In addition, open house sessions will be conducted in Boise, Riggins, Clarkston/Lewiston and Joseph.

Boise

July 5th, 2016
6pm – 8pm
Valley View Elementary School Gymnasium
3555 N Milwaukee St. Boise, ID 83704

Riggins

July 6th, 2016
6pm – 8pm
HCNRA Riggins Office Conference Room
1339 Hwy 95 South Riggins, ID 83549

Clarkston

July 7th, 2016
6pm – 8pm
Walla Walla Community College – Clarkston Campus Multipurpose Room
1470 Bridge St. Clarkston, WA 99403

Joseph

July 8th, 2016
6pm – 8pm
Joseph Community Center
East 1st St. Joseph, OR

For more information, questions or comments about any of these new fee proposals, please contact Jake Lubera, Deputy District Ranger, Wallowa Mountains Office at 541-426-5581 or jlubera@fs.fed.us and comments-pacificnorthwest-wallowa-whitman@fs.fed.us

Please visit the 2016 Wild and Scenic Snake River Fee Proposal website at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/WildScenicSnakeRiverProposedFee

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Anyone available to attend one or more of these meetings, please do so. We need to voice our opinions loud and clear.



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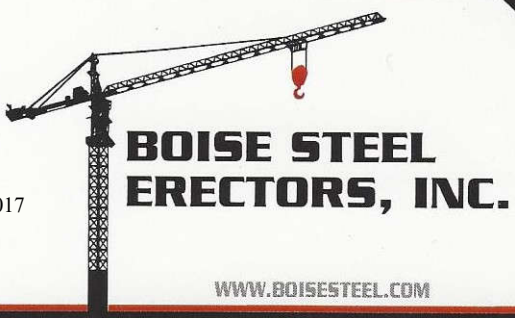
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This past month has been very busy for me. The forest service is keeping me on my toes. We have situations on the Salmon River and in Hells Canyon that need to be addressed.

The forest service has shut down a section of the Salmon River to all motorized craft starting July 1st thru August 31st. The river plan/forest plan from 1981 has actually banned jet boats on this section but it has never been enforced. To my way of thinking we need to address this situation very aggressively. We do not want to have any section of any river closed.

The second situation we are currently looking at is the proposed fee demo in Hells Canyon. I have been in close contact with Jake Lubera of the Willow-Whitman forest service. If this proposal goes through we are going to do it right. We have several opportunities to express our concern or support: (For dates, times and locations,

please read the "Press Release", front page of this newsletter.)

I would like to encourage as many members as possible to attend any of these meetings. It always helps

to show our numbers. I will be attending several of these meetings to make sure the same presentation is happening at each one.

I would like to thank Sandra Mitchell from the IRC for inviting me to their quarterly meeting. I learned a lot. Sandra is also keeping watch over both of these issues. She is helping me by answering questions that are coming up and how we should approach both of these issues.

Once again I ask that all of you be very mindful of what you put on social media as well as what you read. The only way to be really informed on any of the issues is by going to the meetings.

If you have any questions please call me or e-mail.

Respectfully,

Shay White

"We must always have old memories and young hopes"

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2. Add two or three drops of water soluble food coloring.
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**WESTERN WHITEWATER
ASSOCIATION**

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westernwhitewater.org

Internet Addresses

Idaho Current Streamflows: (New Address) 5-01

http://water.usgs.gov/id/nwis/current?type=flow&group_key=NONE&search_site_no_station_nm= (enter it once and bookmark it!)

Idaho Power Streamflow Information: (03-02)

<http://www.idahopower.com/h2o/idastream.cfm>

Riverflow Information:

<http://www.idwr.state.id.us/planpol/techserv/flows.htm>

Addresses and Telephone Numbers

Salmon River Reservations: Slate Creek Ranger Station: 208-839-2211

Hells Canyon Power Boat Reservations: Reservations must be made online. <https://ww.recreation.gov/>

River & Reservoir Levels: Bureau of Reclamation: 208-334-9134

Bliss Dam Outflows: Idaho Power (Call weekdays only) 208-388-2255

Calendar of Events.

JULY 11, 2016 *General Membership meeting—Canyon Creek Restaurant, Nampa*

AUGUST 8, 2016 *General Membership meeting—Canyon Creek Restaurant, Nampa*

SEPT 17, 2016 *Confluence Run*

OCT 22, 2016 *Hammer Creek Run*
